

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 9, 2007. Claims 1-39 were pending in that action. All claims were rejected. With the present response, claims 6, 8, 22, 24, 25, 30, 38 and 39 are canceled. Claims 1, 10 and 27 are amended. The remaining claims are unchanged.

ENTRY AFTER FINAL IS APPROPRIATE BECAUSE  
THE AMENDMENTS RAISE NO NEW ISSUES

It is respectfully pointed out that the amendments made herein raise no new issues and are appropriate for entry after final rejection. With the amendments, Applicant has done little more than move previously pending dependent claims into their corresponding independent claim. In addition, Applicant has canceled claims affected by the relocations of the dependent claim elements. In addition, Applicant has simply changed the terminology "computer-readable medium" to "computer-readable storage medium."

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of these amendments.

CONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SUBMITTED ON APRIL 3, 2007

Applicant submitted an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on April 3, 2007. At this point, it would appear that the Examiner has not yet indicated consideration of that IDS. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the IDS and written confirmation thereof.

APPROVAL OF DRAWINGS REQUESTED

It is again pointed out that the Office Actions submitted up to this point have made no indication one way or the other as to whether Applicant's drawings have been accepted. Applicant respectfully requests confirmation that the drawings have been accepted.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §101

Beginning on page 7 of the latest Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-37 under 35 U.S.C. §101. In a related comment on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that Applicant's claims, which all recite a "computer-readable medium," are limited to the context of an unpatentable signal. In response, Applicant has amended the terminology "computer-readable medium" to now read "computer-readable storage medium." It is respectfully submitted that the claims no longer can be interpreted to being limited to the context of a signal. There is thorough support in Applicants' specification for implementation in the context of a computer-implemented storage medium.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that each pending claim recites functional descriptive material squarely within the scope of what is considered patentable subject matter under the law. Applicant's claims define a computer-readable storage medium encoded with a data structure having structural and functional interrelationships between the data structure and the components that permit the data structure's functionality to be realized. See MPEP §2106(IV)(B)(1)(a). As is specifically pointed out in the claims themselves, the claimed data structures are configured to support an automatic derivation of a dimensional data model that corresponds to an object-relational data model. This is in no way non-functional descriptive material.

The applicable guidelines pertaining to the patentability of computer-related inventions provide guidance as to what non-functional descriptive material is. Some examples that are given include music, literature, art, and photographs. In contrast, the claims currently pending represent arrangements or compilations of data having a functional interrelationship that removes them from the realm of non-functional descriptive material and places them squarely within the scope of patentable, functional, descriptive material.

For all of these reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under §101 are respectfully solicited.

INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1 AND ITS RELATED DEPENDENT CLAIMS

In the latest Office Action, claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0215626 (hereinafter referred to as “the Colossi reference”). Further, claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Colossi reference in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2005/0246370 (hereinafter referred to as “the Rubendall reference”). With the present response, claims 6 and 8 have been canceled. Elements substantially consistent with the previously pending claim 6 have been amended into claim 1.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a standardized data representation that includes a description of at least one focal point that represents a point of analysis relative to data in a claimed object-relational data model. In response to this element (i.e., in the rejection of the now cancelled corresponding dependent claim), the Examiner has pointed to the Colossi reference at paragraphs 0091, 0092 and 0144. In fact, none of these passages, nor any other portion of the Colossi reference, teaches or suggests a standardized data representation that includes a description of a focal point that represents a point of analysis. The Rubendall reference does not remedy the inability of the Colossi reference to teach or suggest this element. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 7 and 9 are in condition for allowance.

INDEPENDENT CLAIM 10 AND ITS ASSOCIATED DEPENDENT CLAIMS

In the latest Office Action, claims 10-15 and 18-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Rubendall reference in view of the Colossi reference. Further, claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Rubendall reference in view of the Colossi reference and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,907,433 (hereinafter referred to as “the Wang reference”). Of these claims, with the present response, claims 22, 24 and 25 have been canceled. Elements substantially consistent with the former claim 22 have now been amended into independent claim 10.

Independent claim 10, as amended, recites a tagged format data schema that includes a description of persistent data store mappings associated with an object-relational data model. In rejecting elements along this line (i.e., in the rejection of the now cancelled

corresponding dependent claim), the Examiner points to the Rubendall reference at paragraphs 0060-0064 and 0035-0040. A close examination of these paragraphs reveals that there is absolutely no teaching or suggestion of a tagged format schema that includes a description of persistent data store mappings as claimed. In fact, the entire Rubendall reference fails to teach or suggest such a configuration. Neither do the Colossi or Wang references teach or suggest such elements.

Accordingly, at least for these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 10-21, 23 and 26 are in condition for allowance.

INDEPDENT CLAIM 27 AND ITS ASSOCAITED DEPENDENT CLAIMS

In the latest Office Action, claims 27-32 and 35-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Rubendall reference in view of Colossi reference. In addition, claims 33 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Rubendall reference in view of the Colossi reference and further in view of the Wang reference. With the present response, claim 30 has been canceled. Elements substantially similar to those included in the former claim 30 have been incorporated into independent claim 27.

Independent claim 27, as amended, specifically defines an XML data schema that includes an indication of a collection of object-relational mappings that specify how a data member associated with a class in an object-relational data model can be filled with data retrieved from at least one table in a relational database. In response to elements along these lines (i.e., in the rejection of the now cancelled corresponding dependent claim), the Examiner has pointed to the Rubendall reference at paragraphs 0060-0064. A close examination of these paragraphs, and indeed the entire Rubendall reference, reveals that there is absolutely no teaching or suggestion of an XML data schema including an indication of a collection of object-relational mappings that specify a data member as claimed. The Colossi and Wang references also fail to teach or suggest such a configuration.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 27-29 and 31-37 are in condition for allowance.

CLAIMS 38 AND 39

With the present response, claims 38 and 39 have been canceled.

CONCLUSION

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 7, 9-21, 23, 26-29 and 31-37 are in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited. The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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